



Official Photo Contest Rules

Women's Safety and Empowerment Photography Contest 2020

I. Contest Sponsors

Women's Safety and Empowerment Photography Contest 2020 is sponsored by the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai and National Geographic Traveller India (herein referred to as the "Contest Sponsors").

II. Description of the Contest Objectives

Each year, the United Nations observes "16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence," which begins on November 25 and culminates in International Human Rights Day on December 10. As part of this campaign, world organizations, educational institutions, and individuals take action to address the global problem of gender-based violence. The U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai will participate by holding a photography contest to promote women's safety in both private and public spaces, raise awareness of gender-based violence, and to encourage women's political, economic, and social empowerment. We are seeking submissions of photographs that promote safety and empowerment for Indian women.

III. Platform(s)

Contest entry and administration will take place through e-mail. However, events from this contest may be announced and promoted on U.S. Consulate General Mumbai's Flickr, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Twitter and other web pages in perpetuity for public viewing on online platforms. However, the Social Media platforms and other web pages are not partners or sponsors of the contest.

Entry(ies) will be subject to changes in resolution, since platforms such as Instagram require a square aspect ratio, U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai reserves the right to design a comparable frame or display layout for the final digital showcase of the entry(ies).

IV. How to Enter

Produce an original photograph that reflects the theme of the contest, "Women's Safety and Empowerment" with a succinct and compelling message. Photos must

be the original work of the contestants and must be shot in India within the past two years. A submission must be an original photograph digital or analogue, taken by the contestant. This contest is open to Indian nationals residing in the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai five-state consular district that includes Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra. Once submitted, a photograph is considered a final submission and may not be modified, edited, or replaced. By submitting a photograph, contestants agree that the Contest sponsors have full permission to disseminate, distribute, and utilize the photographs on public platforms and at public or private events to include, but not limited to, social media, websites, and public screenings. Contestants may submit up to two photographs, but only one photograph per contestant will be eligible for a prize. Participation in this contest is automatically deemed as acceptance of these official contest rules.

a. Photograph Submission:

Submit your photograph entry(ies) via email to USCGPhotoContest@gmail.com

Contestants are required to include in the email:

- Full name of submitter
- Postal address
- E-mail address
- Mobile number/s
- Age
- Nationality
- Number of photographs submitted
- Location where the photograph was shot
- A one-sentence caption highlighting the essence of the photograph
- Please include the following language in your email: “As the official photographer of this photograph, I acknowledge and agree to abide by the terms and conditions of the official rules of the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai’s Women’s Safety and Empowerment Photography Contest 2020”

The contest commences on October 9, 2020. Entries may be submitted between October 9, 2020 and November 6, 2020. Judging begins on November 12, 2020 and ends on November 23, 2020.

V. Content Requirements

a. Submissions must not contain obscenity, explicit sexual material, nudity, profanity, graphic violence, calls or incitement to violence, commercial solicitation or commercial promotion. Submissions must conform to local law and must not contain content or images that could be considered abusive, inflammatory, denigrating, or disrespectful to any of the Contest Sponsors, or to any groups,

individuals or institutions. Submissions must adhere both in appearance and in fact to the norms of civil discourse. In other words, the content of all submissions must be suitable for a global, public audience.

b. Submissions must be original content created by the contestant and must not contain any elements that are protected by someone else's copyright or otherwise subject to third party intellectual property or proprietary rights, including privacy and publicity rights (except as expressly permitted below in (d)). Contest Sponsors recognize no allowance for "fair use" of copyrighted material, nor do Contest Sponsors recognize allowance for use of licensed materials created or owned by a third party.

c. Contest Sponsors reserve the right to disqualify, at their sole and absolute discretion, any submission that does not adhere to these criteria and to the intent and substance of these Official Contest Rules.

d. In the event of any question or difference of views regarding compliance with, interpretation, or application of these content requirements or other provisions of these Official Contest Rules, Contest Sponsors reserve the exclusive right to resolve such questions or differences of views in their sole discretion.

e. By submitting a photograph to the contest, the contestant affirms that he or she has obtained written consent from all individuals whose image or likeness appears in the photograph (or from the individuals' parent/legal guardian if any such individuals are considered a minor in their country of residence), and that he or she has obtained the necessary rights, licenses, consents, and permissions to use all material such as music, images, text and other content in the submission. The contestant further affirms that he or she is prepared to provide reliable documentation of any and all such consents, licenses, etc., upon request. Failure to obtain such rights, license consents, and permissions may result in the disqualification of the photo submission at the Contest Sponsors' sole and absolute discretion.

f. Technical Format Requirements

Photo submissions must be in landscape dimensions, in jpeg/jpg format, must be at least one (1) megabyte, and no smaller than 1920x1080 pixels. Submissions should not have any visible watermarks, signatures, or personally identifiable information. Limited artistic retouching of photos is permitted, including cropping, and modest darkening or lightening of parts of the image.

VI. Eligibility

a. Contestants must be at least 16 years old on the date of entry into the contest. Parental or legal guardian consent is required for individuals under the age of 18.

Contestants must be residents of western India (Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra), and may not be U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

b. The individual submitting the entry will be considered the contestant and will be the only individual eligible to compete for the prize. Organizations are not eligible to compete for the prize, either as an entity, or through representation by an individual.

c. The following individuals are not eligible to participate in the contest: Employees, interns, directors, and officers of the Contest Sponsors, Consulate's social media platforms, or the U.S. Government; or any employees, interns, directors, or officers of any agencies, companies or entities involved in the administration, advertising, judging, creation, development, execution, and/or fulfilment of this contest, and the immediate family members (defined as spouse, recognized partner, parent, child, sibling, and spouse or "step" of each) and those living in the same household of each such individual.

d. Once a submission has been accepted for entry into the contest, the contestant's name and country may be publicly identified at the sole discretion of the contestant.

VII. Selection of Winners

a. All photos are subject to pre-screening by Contest Sponsors to ensure compliance with these Official Contest Rules. Any photos out of compliance will not be eligible for judging. Contest Sponsors reserve the right in their sole and absolute discretion to verify in the final analysis whether a potential finalist or potential winning photo submission has fully complied with these Official Contest Rules before judging, awarding prize, recognizing a winner, etc.

b. Judges: Photographs will be judged by a jury comprising 3 members - 1 official from the U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai, 1 official from National Geographic Traveller India, and 1 expert from the field of art and culture.

c. Judging Criteria: The photographs will be judged on the following criteria:

(a) Adherence/Appropriateness to Theme

(b) Clarity and Quality of Submission

(c) Overall Impression/Impact, and

(d) Uniqueness of concept

d. Winners: Each winner and/or finalist will be required to sign and return via email at the time of submission to Contest Sponsors a statement of eligibility and liability/publicity release (as referred to in [IV. How to Enter / a. Photograph Submission]); otherwise the winner and/or finalist will be ineligible for any prize.

e. Winner(s) will be contacted via e-mail at the e-mail address provided at the time of submission. The inability of Contest Sponsors to contact a potential winner, after two attempts, may result in disqualification and/or selection of an alternate winner from among all remaining eligible submissions.

VIII. Prize(s)

a. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: First place, Second place, Third place, Fourth place, Fifth place.

Prizes will include cameras, accessories pertinent to the art of photography, and National Geographic Traveller India magazine subscriptions.

b. Winning photographs may be displayed on U.S. Consulate General Mumbai's website and social media properties (at the sole discretion of the U.S. Consulate General Mumbai), and may receive print space in the National Geographic Traveller India publication (at the sole discretion of National Geographic Traveller India).

c. Winners have to confirm the acceptance of the prize in an email reply within three calendar days. If the acceptance is not confirmed by the required date, the Contest Sponsors reserve the right to select an alternate winner. Each winner must provide a valid physical mailing address where a prize, if any, is to be shipped. Contest Sponsors are not responsible for any problems related to the shipping of any prize, including, but not limited to, theft, delay, damage, or destruction/accidental loss by the shipping carrier.

d. Any unused portion of the prize is not transferable, convertible, or exchangeable and cannot be taken as cash. All taxes on or in connection with any prize, and the reporting consequences thereof, are the sole and exclusive responsibility of the winner.

IX. Liability and Rights

a. Contest Sponsors do not endorse any submissions or messages expressed therein, and Contest Sponsors expressly disclaim any and all liability in connection with the submitted photos including disputes between collaborators related to a submission.

b. The contest and its sponsors do not permit copyright infringing activities or infringement of any other intellectual property rights, and Contest Sponsors reserve the right to remove and disqualify any submission they deem to be in violation of another party's copyright or other intellectual property rights.

c. Contestants retain sole ownership of their original work. The submission remains the intellectual property of the contestant, and the Contest Sponsors and U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai make no claim of copyright as to the work of any individual who enters the contest. Contestant specifically agrees to give the Contest Sponsors permission to use all content submitted for purposes of judging the contest. Finalists and/or winners will be required to grant Contest Sponsors, with proper attribution through whatever means they deem appropriate, a worldwide, non-exclusive, royalty-free, sub-licensable and transferable license to use, reproduce, distribute, prepare derivative works of, and/or display the submission in any media formats and through any media channels in perpetuity in connection with the activities and operations of the contest.

d. Contestant assumes sole responsibility for the contest submission and the material contained in it, and for any consequences of submitting or posting it.

e. Contest Sponsors reserve the right at any time to verify the validity of entries and of contestants and to disqualify any contestant or entry deemed not in compliance with these Official Contest Rules.

f. If a prize or any portion thereof is unavailable, Contest Sponsors, in their sole discretion, reserve the right to substitute the prize with another prize of equal or greater value and/or specification.

g. Contest Sponsors reserve the right, at any time and in their sole discretion, to disqualify and/or deem ineligible any individual who they reasonably believe (i) has violated the Official Contest Rules; (ii) has violated the terms of use of platform, or (iii) is acting in a bad faith, or in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner, or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person.

h. Contest Sponsors reserve the right to modify, suspend, terminate or cancel the contest at their discretion for any reason.

i. Contestant agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Contest Sponsors, their parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, officers, directors, employees, interns, and agents, from and against any and all claims, damages, obligations, losses, liabilities, costs or debts, and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees) arising from (i) violation of these Official Contest Rules; (ii) violation of any third party right, including without limitation any copyright, trademark, intellectual property, privacy, publicity, or other proprietary right in connection with the contest; or (iii) any claim that a contest submission caused any harm, including

financial, to any third party. These indemnifications and hold-harmless obligations will survive indefinitely beyond the conclusion of the contest.

j. The conduct, judging, and awarding of prizes will be carried out in full compliance with applicable U.S. laws and Indian laws. In the event of a conflict between U.S. laws and Indian laws, U.S. laws shall apply.

k. Contest Sponsors and the U.S. Government will take reasonable measures to protect privacy data, personally identifiable information, and other sensitive data of contestants. Contact information provided by contestants may be stored by U.S. Consulate General, Mumbai and may be used to contact contestants for other purposes in the future. This information may be shared with the co-sponsor of the contest and/or made available to third parties to the extent permitted by law.

l. Contest Sponsors assume no liability or responsibility for any loss or harm resulting from any user's participation in or attempt to participate in the contest or ability or inability to upload, download, or otherwise access any information in connection with participating in the contest. Contest Sponsors assume no responsibility or liability for technical problems, or technical malfunctions arising in connection with the operation of the contest, including: hardware or software errors; faulty computer, telephone, cable, satellite, network, electronic, wireless or Internet connectivity, or other online communication problems; errors or limitations of any Internet service providers, servers, hosts or providers; garbled, jumbled or faulty data transmissions; failure of any email transmissions to be sent or received; lost, late, delayed or intercepted email transmissions; inaccessibility of the contest site in whole or in part for any reason; traffic congestion on the Internet or the contest site; unauthorized human or non-human intervention in the operation of the contest, including without limitation, unauthorized tampering, hacking, theft, virus, bugs, worms; or destruction of any aspect of the contest, or loss, miscount, misdirection, inaccessibility or unavailability of an email account used in connection with the contest.

m. Contest Sponsors are not responsible for any personal injury, property damage, equipment damage, or losses of any kind which may be sustained resulting from participation in the contest. By participating in the contest, the contestant releases Contest Sponsors from any and all claims arising from or relating to such contestant's participation in the contest, whether directly or indirectly.

n. Contest Sponsors are not liable in the event that any portion of the contest is cancelled or delayed due to weather, fire, strike, acts of war or terrorism, or any other reason.
